

Abstract of the Disclosure

Apparatus for transmitting a data stream
between cards connected by a midplane breaks
the data stream into a plurality of channels.
The apparatus comprises a serializer for each
channel. Serialized data is transmitted across
the midplane to a deserializer at the
destination. Sequential cells are sent in
different channels. Cell ordering is preserved
by staggering the start of cell transmission in
the channels. The invention permits data to be
transmitted across a mid plane using a reduced
number of data lines. The data stream on each
card may be carried in a wide bus at a
relatively low clock rate. Apparatus according
to the invention may be used to transmit an
OC-192 data stream across a pin-limited
interface.

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